

This listing of claims will replace all versions of claims in the "Substitute specification" marked version :

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device Device-(1) for wafer inspection , which comprises with a stage (2) ~~that is for mounting a wafer thereon for inspection, said stage being~~ displaceable in two directions (X, Y) ~~that are perpendicular to one another and onto which is placed the wafer (25) to be inspected, the , said stage (2) being air-cushioned and being provided with several a plurality of air nozzles (12, 14), characterized in that there is provided , at least one valve (29) connected with , at least one electric control unit (27) , said at least one valve connected to said at least one electric control unit, wherein said at least one and that the valve (29) is configured so that normal pressure prevails in the said air nozzles (12, 14) when the said electric control unit (27) delivers a corresponding signal.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The device Device-(1) as defined in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the signal is triggered by a drop in potential.
3. (Currently Amended) The device Device-(1) as defined in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the signal is triggered by an emergency shut-down.
4. (Currently Amended) The device Device-(1) as defined in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the signal is triggered by a software failure of the software.
5. (Currently Amended) The device Device-(1) as defined in ~~one of claims claim 1 to 4,~~ characterized in that there is provided comprising a first and a second electric drive (4, 6) means for the purpose of moving the said stage (2) along the two displaceable directions (X, Y) that are perpendicular to one another.
6. (Currently Amended) The device Device-(1) as defined in ~~one of claims claim 1 to 5,~~ characterized in that the wherein said first and the second electric drive (4, 6) drives comprise are at least first and second linear motors.

7. (Currently Amended) The device ~~Device (1)~~ as defined in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein parallel to the first linear motor there is disposed at least one first track (8) which cooperates with ~~a multitude~~ said plurality of air nozzles (12), the compressed air emerging through said air nozzles (12) ~~thus~~ forming an air bearing for the (X) direction.

8. (Currently Amended) The device ~~Device (1)~~ as defined in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein parallel to the second linear motor there is disposed at least one second track (10) ~~that~~ which cooperates with ~~a multitude~~ said plurality of air nozzles (14), the compressed air emerging through said air nozzles (14) ~~thus~~ forming an air bearing for the (Y) direction.

9. (Currently Amended) The device ~~Device (1)~~ as defined in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ configured so that when ~~the~~ said at least one valve (29) is open, normal pressure prevails in the air nozzles (12, 14) so that the stage (2) with the said plurality of air nozzles (12, 14) rests on the first and second ~~track (8, 10)~~ tracks, wherein the position ~~the~~ of said stage (2) occupied during the generation of the signal thus being determined.

10. (Currently Amended) The device ~~Device (1)~~ as defined in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 9, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said stage (2) ~~is provided with~~ comprises a receptacle (20) for inspection of the wafer (25) ~~to be inspected~~.

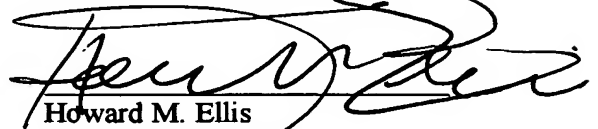
11. (Currently Amended) The device ~~Device (1)~~ as defined in claim 6 ~~one of claims 1 to 10,~~ ~~characterized in that the~~ , wherein said stage comprises housing means for at least (2), the linear motors, the corresponding air nozzles (12, 14) for a first and a second stage element (2a, 2b), at least one control unit (27), air supply lines (32) and electric lines (34) ~~are disposed in a housing~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The device ~~Device (1)~~ as defined in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one valve (29) is provided on the air nozzle (12, 14) itself.

13. (Currently Amended) The device ~~Device (1)~~ as defined in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the at least one valve (29) is provided in is disposed in at least one air supply line (34).

January 4, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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